



Office of the Webb County Judge

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, Antonio Mateo Bruni was born in 1856 in small village of Bedonia in the providence of Parma in northern Italy. Orphaned at age 12, he emigrated to San Antonio, Texas, where he lived with his uncle. He came to Laredo by stagecoach in 1877, established a mercantile business, and later built an extensive sheep ranching business and real estate holdings; and,

**WHEREAS**, Antonio Mateo Bruni married Consolacion Henry, a great-granddaughter of Patrick Henry, at San Fernando Cathedral in San Antonio in 1879, and nine children were born to the couple; and,

**WHEREAS**, A leading member of the Bota party, Antonio Mateo Bruni was elected to the Laredo City Council in 1886 and then to the Webb County Commissioners Court in 1894. At the time of his death on August 18, 1931, Antonio Mateo Bruni was characterized by the *Laredo Times* as "one of Laredo's most extensive property owners," and "one of the most powerful political leaders on the Texas border;" and,

**WHEREAS**, Throughout his lifetime, the generous Antonio Mateo Bruni contributed financially to promote the education of the youths of Laredo and Webb County; and,

**WHEREAS**, In 1927, A.M. Bruni Elementary was named after Antonio Mateo Bruni in recognition of his great contributions toward the education of the youths of Laredo, Webb County; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Louis H. Bruni, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Webb County Judge, and on behalf of the Webb Commissioner's Court, do hereby proclaim November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2004 as:

**"ANTONIO MATEO BRUNI DAY"**

In Webb County, Texas and call upon the community to participate in this special observance.

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In Witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused the Official Seal of Webb County, Texas to be affixed on this 03<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2004.

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The Honorable Louis H. Bruni  
Webb County Judge